

CLAIMS

- 1 1. An in-situ pile apparatus comprising:
 - 2 a) a lowermost helical anchor;
 - 3 b) a plurality of hollowed pile sections that are
 - 4 connectable end to end, a lowermost of the pile sections being
 - 5 connectable to the helical anchor;
 - 6 c) an internal drive system that is comprised of a
 - 7 plurality of sections that are connectable end to end and which
 - 8 fit inside of the hollowed pile sections, the drive including
 - 9 enlarged members that fit at the joints between respective pile
 - 10 sections.
- 1 2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the enlarged diameter
- 2 section is square in transverse cross section.
- 1 3. The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the pile sections have
- 2 squared end portions that are shaped to fit the squared end
- 3 portion of another pile section.
- 1 4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein each of the pile sections
- 2 carries circumferentially spaced radially extending soil
- 3 displacement ribs.
- 1 5. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the internal drive is
- 2 hollow and further comprising a rod that extends longitudinally
- 3 through the hollow interior of the internal drive.
- 1 6. A method of installing a piling system comprising the steps
- 2 of:
 - 3 a) thrusting a helical anchor into the earth;
 - 4 b) connecting one or more pile sections to the helical
 - 5 anchor, each of the pile sections having squared end portions
 - 6 that are connectable with respective other squared end portions

7 of other pile sections;

8 c) driving the anchor and pile sections with an internal
9 drive that includes a plurality of longitudinally extending end
10 to end connected drive members, and wherein the internal drive
11 includes enlarged drive members that are placed at spaced apart
12 positions and which fit the joint between pile sections,
13 registering at the squared end portions of connected pipe
14 sections.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein each of the pile sections is
2 shaped to connect to another pile section at a joint with a
3 combined configuration that transmits torque and further
4 comprising generating torque with the internal drive and
5 transferring torque to the pile sections via the joints.

1 8. The method of claim 6 wherein in step "b" each pile section
2 has at least one squared end portion, and the squared end
3 portions are joined together.

1 9. The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of filling
2 the bore of a pile section with a filler material.

1 10. A method of installing a piling system comprising the steps
2 of:

3 a) thrusting an anchor into the earth;

4 b) connecting a first pile section to the helical anchor,
5 the pile section having a bore and an upper and lower end
6 portions, each having a connector;

7 c) connecting a second pile section to the upper end
8 portion of the first pile section, the second pile section having
9 a bore, the first and second pile sections having a drive joint
10 at a connection that joins them;

11 d) driving the anchor and the first and second pile

12 sections with an internal drive that includes a plurality of
13 longitudinally extending, connected drive members, and wherein
14 the internal drive includes enlarged drive members that are
15 placed at spaced apart positions and which each fit a drive joint
16 between two connected pile sections, registering at the connected
17 end portions of two connected pile sections.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein in step "a" the anchor is a
2 helical anchor.

1 12. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of
2 filling the bore of a pile section with a filler material.

1 13. The method of claim 10 further comprising the step of
2 filling the bore of a pile section with a grout filler material.

1 14. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of
2 removing all or part of the drive member before adding the filler
3 material.

1 15. The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of
2 removing all or part of the drive member before adding the grout
3 material.

1 16. An in-situ pile apparatus comprising:

2 a) a lowermost helical anchor that is configured to be
3 driven into a soil mass;

4 b) a plurality of hollowed pile sections that are
5 connectable at joints that have open bores, a lowermost of the
6 hollowed pile sections being connectable to the top of the
7 anchor;

8 c) an internal drive system that is comprised of a
9 plurality of sections that are connectable and which fit inside

10 of the hollowed pile sections, the drive system including
11 enlarged sections that snugly fit the open bore of the joints
12 between respective pile sections.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein the enlarged diameter
2 section is a solid structure that occupies a joint open bore
3 during use.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the pile sections have end
2 portions that are shaped to fit the end portion of another pile
3 section in telescoping fashion.

1 19. The apparatus of claim 16 wherein each of the pile sections
2 carries a plurality of circumferentially spaced radially
3 extending soil displacement ribs.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the internal drive system
2 includes a rod that extends longitudinally through each pile
3 section and enlarged drive members placed at intervals along the
4 rod, the enlarged drive members occupying the joint bores during
5 use.

1 21. A multi-section pile apparatus, comprising:

2 a) a lowermost anchor that is configured to be driven into
3 a soil mass by rotation, the anchor having a helically threaded
4 portion;

5 b) a plurality of pile sections that are connectable end-
6 to-end at joints, the pipe sections and joints having hollow
7 bores, a lowermost of the pile sections being connectable to the
8 top of the anchor;

9 c) an internal drive that fits inside of the pile
10 sections, the drive including enlarged sections that snugly fit
11 the bores of the joints between respective pile sections, each

12 joint being occupied by an enlarged section of the drive; and
13 d) wherein the enlarged section and the joints are
14 configured with non-annular surfaces that enable torque to be
15 transmitted from the drive to the pile sections.

1 22. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the enlarged diameter
2 section is a solid structure that occupies a joint open bore
3 during use.

1 23. The apparatus of claim 22 wherein the pile sections have end
2 portions that are shaped to fit the end portion of another pile
3 section in telescoping fashion.

1 24. The apparatus of claim 23 wherein each of the pile sections
2 carries a plurality of circumferentially spaced radially
3 extending soil displacement ribs.

1 25. The apparatus of claim 21 wherein the internal drive system
2 includes a rod that extends longitudinally through each pile
3 section and enlarged drive members placed at intervals along the
4 rod, the enlarged drive members occupying the joint bores during
5 use.

1 26. A multi-section pile apparatus, comprising:

2 a) a lowermost anchor that is configured to be driven into
3 a soil mass by rotation, the anchor having a helically threaded
4 portion;

5 b) a plurality of pile sections that are connectable end-
6 to-end at joints, the pipe sections and joints having hollow
7 bores, a lowermost of the pile sections being connectable to the
8 top of the anchor;

9 c) an internal drive that fits inside of the pile
10 sections, the drive including enlarged sections that snugly fit

11 the bores of the joints between respective pile sections, each
12 joint being occupied by an enlarged section of the drive;

13 d) wherein the enlarged section and the joints are
14 configured with non-annular surfaces that enable torque to be
15 transmitted from the drive to the pile sections; and

16 e) the lower end portion of the drive having a connector
17 that enables a connection to be made between the lower end
18 portion of the drive and an upper end portion of the anchor.

1 27. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the enlarged diameter
2 section is a solid structure that occupies a joint open bore
3 during use.

1 28. The apparatus of claim 27 wherein the pile sections have end
2 portions that are shaped to fit the end portion of another pile
3 section in telescoping fashion.

1 29. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein each of the pile sections
2 carries a plurality of circumferentially spaced radially
3 extending soil displacement ribs.

1 30. The apparatus of claim 26 wherein the internal drive system
2 includes a rod that extends longitudinally through each pile
3 section and enlarged drive members placed at intervals along the
4 rod, the enlarged drive members occupying the joint bores during
5 use.

1 31. A multi-section pile apparatus, comprising:

2 a) a lowermost anchor that is configured to be driven into
3 a soil mass by rotation, the anchor having a helically threaded
4 portion;

5 b) a plurality of pile sections that are connectable end-
6 to-end at joints, the pipe sections and joints having hollow

7 bores, a lowermost of the pile sections being connectable to the
8 top of the anchor;

9 c) an internal drive that fits inside of the pile
10 sections, the drive including enlarged sections that snugly fit
11 the bores of the joints between respective pile sections, each
12 joint being occupied by an enlarged section of the drive;

13 d) wherein the enlarged section and the joints are
14 configured with non-annular surfaces that enable torque to be
15 transmitted from the drive to the pile sections;

16 e) the lower end portion of the drive having a connector
17 that enables a connection to be made between the lower end
18 portion of the drive and an upper end portion of the anchor; and

19 f) the combination of pile sections and joints being
20 continuously hollow so that fill material added to the uppermost
21 pile section enables all of the pile sections to be filled with
22 fill material.

1 32. The method of claim 31 further comprising water barrier pipe
2 means that span between a soil line and a water surface during
3 use, mounted on the upper end of the assembled pile sections.